

17 November 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. I talked to Mr. Max Elliott, General Counsel of the General Services Administration today about the bills presently in Congress which would confirm the authorities of the Administrator of General Services in the handling of Government real and personal property, buildings, and disposal of surplus and excess goods. These bills wipe out the statutory exemption in which CIA was included and with one exception provide for exemption by Executive Order.

2. My question was what GSA's position would be if we requested a specific statutory exemption for CIA. Mr. Elliott said their preference would be to avoid any statutory exemptions and to provide for executive exemptions in all cases, and if called upon to comment to the committees of Congress this would be their position. He felt it would also be the position of the committees. However, to make sure that there were no slip-ups or misunderstandings, Mr. Elliott suggested that we discuss the situation with Congressman Dawson.

3. If the solution lies in the executive exemptions, Mr. Elliott said he saw no problem between GSA and CIA in arriving at a satisfactory executive order and working arrangement.

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LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

cc: Legislative Counsel